

REMARKS

Claim Objections

Claim 11 was objected to because it depended on Claim 1 that has been previously cancelled. The applicants have amended Claim 11 appropriately to correct this error. Specifically, Claim 11 is now restated as an independent claim.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 11-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,103,658 to Mackenzie et al. (hereinafter "Mackenzie"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Mackenzie discloses α -diimines in which heteroatom groups are attached to the imino group carbon atoms. In contrast, the present claims do not recite any compounds comprising α -diimines. Although Q or Z in the presently claimed compounds can be nitrogen, Q and Z can not both be nitrogen in the same compound. Furthermore, in most of the compounds when Q or Z is nitrogen, the nitrogen atom is part of an amino group not an imino group, except when Q is nitrogen; in such compounds, that nitrogen atom can be part of an imino group. However in compounds wherein Q is nitrogen, Z must be oxygen, so that such compounds are not α -diimines. Thus, Mackenzie does not anticipate the present claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the present amendment and the above remarks, Applicants submit that claims 11-16 are allowable over Mackenzie. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

Since a two-month extension of time is necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, such an extension of time is hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), and any fees required therefore are hereby authorized to

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be charged to our Deposit Account No. 04-1928 (E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Co.).
Furthermore, if any other fees are required in connection with the filing of this
response, you are hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 04-1928.

Respectfully submitted,

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